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FM USEU BRUSSELS
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE
INFO RUCNMEM/EU MEMBER STATES COLLECTIVE PRIORITY
RUEHNY/AMEMBASSY OSLO PRIORITY
RUEHJM/AMCONSUL JERUSALEM PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L BRUSSELS 001609

SIPDIS

E.O. 12958: DECL: 03/13/2019
TAGS: [OPDC](#) [PREL](#) [EAID](#) [PGOV](#) [EUN](#) [WBG](#)
SUBJECT: DELIVERY OF LETTER FROM SECRETARY CLINTON TO EU
HIGH REPRESENTATIVE ASHTON ON BUDGET SUPPORT FOR
PALESTINIAN AUTHORITY

REF: STATE 120487

Classified By: Political Minister-Counselor Chris Davis for reasons 1.5
(b) and (d)

¶1. (C) USEU delivered reftel letter from Secretary Clinton to newly appointed EU High Representative Catherine Ashton December 1--her first day in office. USEU also passed copies of the letter to EU Council and Commission officers responsible for Palestinian issues, who undertook to provide a response as soon as possible. Commission desk officer for Palestine said a similar written request had been sent by Palestinian Authority Prime Minister Fayyad, but that no response had yet been made.

¶2. (C) Comment: The EU provides considerable budgetary support to the Palestinian Authority, but short notice shifts in the EU budget authority are difficult to manage, and the decision would have to be made at the most senior level at a time when HR Ashton and others are just assuming office. Post recommends the issues be raised by the Secretary during her anticipated bilateral meeting in Brussels December 4.
End Comment.

Murray

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